INTRODUCTION: Story:

Three professors were so ABSORBED in conversation, they didn't hear the train coming, nor did they hear the conductor's "all abord" call.

But they were attracted by the puffing of the engine as the train pulled away.

They rushed for the train, and two of them managed to scramble on, leaving the third looking on sheepishlyly.

The train agent, standing by, said, "Too bad. Mister, but don't worry.

Two out of three of you made the train, that's a good percentage "Yes" sighed, the professor.

"The only trouble is that; the other two came down to see me off."

I came before you; today to talk briefly, not in an abstruse, political way, but in a kind of concern citizen guise, if you will.

Although my hat; is hung at town hall, when I thank the people who have been the best teachers in my life,

I thank; much about the time I have spent growing up; in this community, and Buffalo, in church basements, on street corners, blocks clubs -- with neighborhood people, who were teaching me constantly about the creative energies that are available in local churches and communities.